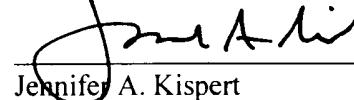


4. Applicants believe that the amendment hereinabove places the application in condition for immediate allowance. Therefore, entry of the amendment hereinabove, and allowance of the claim, pending after entry of the amendment, are respectfully requested. Such prompt and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 26, 2002

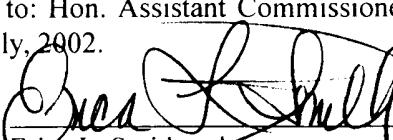
  
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Jennifer A. Kispert  
Reg. No. 40,049  
Attorney for Applicants

Pfizer Inc.  
Patent Department  
Eastern Point Road MS:8260-1611  
Groton, CT 06340  
(860) 715-5747

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 26th day of July, 2002.

By:

  
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Erica L. Smith